13.12.24

THE MORE MESSENGER

ST THOMAS MORE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Learning to love, live and celebrate as we grow in the knowledge and love of Christ

Anything in The More Messenger that is red and underlined is a dynamic link. Click or tap the link to take you to further information or booking forms.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY....

Tuesday 17th Dec 2024	Key Stage 2 Carol Concert - Scared Heart Church @ 6pm
Wednesday 18th Dec 2024	Christmas Dinner Day / Christmas Jumpers
Friday 20th Dec 2024	End of Term - School finishes at 1:30pm
Sat 21st Dec 2024 - Sun 5th Jan 2025	Christmas Holidays - School Closed
Monday 6th Jan 2025	Inset Day - School Closed
Tuesday 7th Jan 2025	Inset Day - School Closed
Tuesday 8th Jan 2025	Children back to school

Please check the calendar on the school website for updates and future dates.

CELEBRATION OF THE WORD

This week, we marked the second week of Advent, lighting the second candle on our wreath and reminding ourselves of the peace we hope to find in our hearts during this busy time of preparation. Our Year 4, 5 and 6 children had the opportunity to reflect on their experience of Reconciliation this week, having their sins absolved as they prepare spiritually to celebrate Christmas. We are thankful to Fr Joseph for his time to help us receive this sacrament in school in this way.

God of peace, instill in us Your peace that surpasses all understanding. As we prepare for His coming, make us instruments of Your peace and help us to find rest in the Prince of Peace, Your Son, Jesus Christ. Amen

NATIVITY PERFORMANCES

This week, we have been reminded of the importance of that first Christmas, the birth of baby Jesus thanks to the wonderful performances put on by the youngest children in our school.

Our Year 1s and 2s sang and performed with great confidence as they shared their Nativity, 'Mend the Manger' and our Nursery and Reception children retold the story of the Nativity with such joy, reminding us just how special this story is. A huge thank you to all the staff who helped the children shine so brightly this week.

Through their work on the Nativity story, the children have been reflecting on the struggles of those without somewhere warm and safe to stay. As a school this Advent, we are supporting the St Vincent De Paul Society Christmas appeal at all of our Nativities and Carol Services to raise money to help those facing poverty, homelessness and destitution. Our school fundraising page which sends funds straight to the charity, can be found **here** if you are able to support.

KS2 CAROL SERVICE - TUESDAY 17TH, SACRED HEART, 6PM

We are looking forward to sharing the children's hard-work on Tuesday evening when they perform their Carol Service in Sacred Heart church. As shared in **the letter**, children are to arrive to the church in their school uniform (without jumpers/cardigans) at 5.45pm ahead of the 6pm start. All are welcome.

PRAYER AT HOME

This week's resource for the third week of Advent can be found **here**.

YEARS 2-6 PANTOMIME TRIP

On Wednesday, Years 2-6 had a fabulous time at the Radlett Centre watching the pantomime 'Sleeping Beauty'. Much enjoyment was had by both children and adults alike! Thank you to the STMSA for funding this experience.

CHRISTMAS FAIR

Thank you to all those who were able to join us on Saturday at our School Christmas Fair. It was a wonderful, festive, vibrant event to bring our school community together. A big thank you to the STMSA team, the donations given and the many hours volunteered to make the event a success.

ST THOMAS MORE SCHOOL ASSOCIATION (STMSA) NEWS

Our Christmas Fair raised **£2,850!** Thank you to our wonderful STM community for making Saturday's Christmas Fair such a successful event! From all your donations, to your time volunteering on the stalls, to those who helped with the prep, the hours of set up and tidying up and those who came and enjoyed the afternoon. We could not have done this without you!

Our wreath making evening raised £830. Special thanks to Natasha and Kritika for their creativity and expertise and to Sarah and Liz for organising this fabulous event.

As a result of your generous contributions, this term the PTA has funded Christmas pantomimes for the whole school, along with weekly Forest School sessions and the repair of the pond.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and look forward to seeing you in 2025.